
MEDICAL SUBSIDY ELIGIBILITY

Certification Criteria

A child may be eligible for an adoption medical subsidy when all of the following are met:

- The child was in foster care through the Michigan public child welfare system at the time the petition for adoption was filed or the child was in foster care through an applicable tribal law and all program requirements are met.
- Certification was requested and approved.
- The medical subsidy agreement was issued and finalized prior to the child's 18th birthday.

Note: The child's adoption must be finalized before their 18th birthday to be eligible for medical subsidy.

- The expenses to be covered by the medical subsidy are necessary because of an identified physical, mental, or emotional condition of the child which existed, or the cause of which existed, before the adoption petition was filed.

Note: Children who are Supplemental Security Income (SSI) eligible who were not in foster care and/or have an adoption assistance agreement in place, are not eligible to apply for the medical subsidy program.

Application

The application procedure for medical subsidy depends on whether the child's adoption is pending, or the child has been legally placed in adoption. Procedures are as follows:

For Children Whose Adoption is Pending

The child's adoption worker must submit a DHS-1341, Adoption Assistance and/or Medical Subsidy Application, to the Adoption and Guardianship Assistance Office (AGAO).

For Children Whose Order Placing Child After Consent (PCA 320) or Order of Adoption (PCA 321)

After the PCA 320 or PCA 321 has been signed by the court, the adoptive parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must submit a DHS-1341A, Parent's Application for Adoption Medical Subsidy for An Adopted Child, to the AGAO.

The adoption worker will assist the adoptive parent(s) by:

- Providing the DHS-1341A form.
- Assisting the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) with completing the form.
- Informing the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) the effective date of the agreement will be the date the DHS-1341A is received in the AGAO, if the required documentation is received in the AGAO within 90 calendar days of the application receipt date. The application will be denied if documentation is not received by the AGAO within 90 calendar days of the application receipt date. In the event of a denial, the adoptive parent(s) may reapply for adoption medical subsidy.

Note: The child's legal guardian(s) are eligible to apply on behalf of the deceased adoptive parent.

Documentation Requirements

Documentation requirements for medical subsidy certification include:

- All documentation (with the exception of medical birth records of prenatal drug exposure) must be signed and dated within 12 months of the application date by the appropriate diagnosing professional:
 - Physical conditions and developmental delays/global developmental delays must be documented by a licensed physician or a licensed physician assistant.

Note: Prematurity and common viruses or colds are not a certifiable condition through the medical subsidy program.

- Emotional conditions such as anxiety disorder, adjustment disorder, oppositional defiant disorder, post-traumatic

stress disorder, autism, or attachment disorder must be documented by a licensed psychologist, psychiatrist, licensed master's social worker, physician, or licensed physician assistant. In cases where the diagnosing professional is not in Michigan, an equivalent state license is required.

- Psychiatric conditions such as bipolar disorder or schizophrenia must be documented by a licensed psychiatrist, a licensed psychologist, or a licensed physician.
- Education/learning conditions such as mental impairment, speech, and language impairment, learning disability, developmental delay/disorder, emotional impairment, or autism must be documented by a current Individual Education Program (IEP) or Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP) document, a comprehensive evaluation by a psychologist or psychiatrist, or speech and language pathologist.
- Attention deficit disorder (ADD)/attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) must be documented by either a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, or by a fully licensed psychologist or psychiatrist. When the diagnosis is by a fully licensed psychologist, a comprehensive evaluation is required.
- Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder, partial fetal or fetal alcohol syndrome must be documented by a medical geneticist, a licensed physician, licensed neurologist, or a licensed psychiatrist.
- Hearing loss must be documented by an audiologist, licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant.
- Vision problems must be documented by an optometrist, ophthalmologist, licensed physician, or licensed physician assistant.
- Motor impairments and sensory problems must be documented by a licensed physician, licensed physician assistant, or occupational therapist.
- Prenatal drug exposure must be documented with lab reports or hospital records from the birth for the child and parent.

- Dental conditions must be documented by a dentist. Medical subsidy does not certify dental cavities.
- Orthodontic problems must be documented by an orthodontist or dentist.

Note: When extractions are needed as part of an orthodontic treatment plan then orthodontic needs may be certified and utilized to assist with costs; see [AAM 640, Post Placement- Use of the Adoption Medical Subsidy Program](#).

The documentation must identify the condition and for an adopted child, explain how the condition, or its cause, existed prior to the adoption.

The AGAO will determine if the documentation submitted for any of the above conditions is sufficient to meet certification criteria for medical subsidy and may request additional documentation.

Not all services may be covered; see [AAM 640, Post Placement- Use of the Adoption Medical Subsidy Program](#).

POLICY CONTACT

Direct questions about this policy to the [Child Welfare Policy Mailbox](#) (Child-Welfare-Policy@michigan.gov).